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NOVA

COMIC SHOP NEWS

When he first appeared more than a third of a century ago, Nova

Nova Returns to Star Status

core character who will interact with other heroes in the mainline

was a hero composed of equal parts Spider-Man and Green Lantern. The alliterative Richard Rider, an ordinary high school student from an average middle-class family, gains amazing powers but isn't skilled in their use; nevertheless, he is motivated to set out on a superheroic path, in part because of the death of his uncle Ralph (see some Spidey similarities there?). His powers are bestowed on him by the last surviving Nova Centurion of the planet Xandar's Nova Corps, who has been mortally wounded and must choose a successor to carry on for him. His choice, Richard Rider, becomes a superhero, first defending his homeworld and then venturing to the reconstructed world of Xandar, the source of his great powers (Notice some Green Lantern similarities?).

Rider's career spanned decades before his made the ultimate sacrifice—but Marvel knew that Nova wasn't going to end with Richard Rider. Instead, there's a new Nova in the Marvel Universe: Sam Alexander, the teenage star of the Marvel Now! *Nova* relaunch produced by the all-star creative team of Jeph Loeb & Ed McGuinness, who has already appeared in DisneyXD's *Ultimate Spider-Man* animated series and in the pages of *Avengers Vs. X-Men*.

In a conference call, Loeb explained how he and McGuinness came to launch the new *Nova*. "Ed and I are huge Nova fans—and in particular, fans of Rich Rider and the Nova Corps and all this stuff that's been going on for decades." After Dan Abnett & Andy Lanning chronicled Richard Rider's demise in a story that Loeb describes as "absolutely epic and heartbreaking," though, he and McGuinness knew that it was time for a new Nova. "Now we have Sam taking on the responsibility of being the only Nova he knows about," Loeb said. "He also has the Richard Rider Nova legacy that will hang heavy over him."

Nova #1 will take readers "back about six months to a time when Sam was a kid living in a very small town in Arizona, where he never believed there be anything for him beyond his own backyard," Loeb said. "Little did he know that his backyard would be the entire universe!"

Why is *Nova* set in Arizona rather than the Marvel focal point of New York City? "It came down to wanting to find some big sky country," Loeb said. "We started out talking about Montana, because I think that's sort of the first place you think of 'big sky.' But it sort of felt like that big, open space of the desert kind of reminded us of what planets look like in the galaxy. We wanted to take an atmosphere that

would not be all that different from when he started traveling out there. Going from Arizona to a place like the moon, you still have that same kind of open space feeling — you're just on the moon."

Like the Nova who has appeared in *Ultimate Spider-Man* on DisneyXD. "Sam absolutely has a bit of that cockiness," Loeb said, "but Sam's been that hero for a while now in the animated series. He has a hard road ahead of him to get him there in *Nova*. Even as you're reading his first story arc, where he's learning about the responsibilities he's about to take on, you know that he will end up in *Avengers Vs. X-Men*." Ultimate, the series will chronicle his development from the young hero we meet in *Nova #1* to the self-confident, assertive hero Marvel fans know from the animated series.

"This is a much more of a quiet story of a kid—at least at the beginning," Loeb said. "In many ways, the story of *Superman: For All Seasons*, which was such a quiet story, about a boy learning his responsibilities to the world — that's where a lot of this story comes from."



What is the relationship between Nova and the upcoming *Guardians of the Galaxy*? That's something that will be addressed right off the bat, with Loeb and *Guardians* writer Brian Bendis carefully coordinating the two books.

Is *Nova* primarily set on Earth, or does most of the action take place in space? "It's a careful balance," Loeb said. "Space is a very difficult environment to relate to, unless it's done very carefully. We wanted to have a book that started very small, to let you understand what's at stake—but that doesn't mean that we're not going to be taking on the biggest and the baddest in the galaxy, and beyond. That is part of what it is to be Nova. He's not an Earth-bound character..."

Loeb said that Nova's adversaries would include "the biggest and baddest of the Marvel Universe. It'll be a bit of a surprise to see who he's up against in this first arc. It is absolutely based in the world of *Nova* but goes to the next level. By the end of the second issue, though, you'll know what's at stake and who the villains are," he said. "Part of what's great about this character is that here's a guy who's literally doing on the job training... We already know that Sam played a role in stopping the Phoenix; his first adventure is on that same level."

Since Nova's role in the *Ultimate Spider-Man* animated series gives him an established all-ages audience, is Loeb writing with that readership in mind? "I don't know that it was as much in my mind as it was that we were telling a story about a fifteen or sixteen year-old kid," Loeb said. "From the very beginning, Nova has been a very fun character. Rich Rider loved being Nova. I don't think we're necessarily writing for an all-ages audience, though—we're writing for the Marvel audience."

Nova #1, a \$3.99 Marvel Now! launch issue, is slated for February 20th release.

by Cliff Biggers



Longtime readers of *Nova* have noticed that the color of Nova's helmet has changed in this series. There's a reason for that, Loeb said. "It's important to who he is and where he comes from. What we know about the Novas is not *everything* we know about the Novas; this is something we spend time talking about. It was not done simply from a design point of view; there is a story reason for the change."

Loeb & McGuinness are also introducing readers to a new Nova Corps; previews of the book have shown a number of unfamiliar members of the team. "It is in some ways *not* what you think it is," Loeb said, "but I can tell you that Ed is having a blast designing these new characters."

Don't get too attached to all of the newcomers, though, because Loeb hints that some of them may not be around for long. "By the end of the first arc, you'll understand who these guys are, the role that they play, and why that scene is so important to how Sam ends up with the helmet."

Loeb stressed that *Nova* doesn't taking part in some far-flung cosmic corner of the Marvel Universe; instead, this is a



Courtesy your friendly neighborhood comics outlet!



Family Feud a Harbinger of War to Come in the Valiant Universe

For months, readers have asked when Valiant was going to debut its first crossover event—and now they've confirmed that April will see the premiere of just such a storyline, *Harbinger Wars*, cowritten by Joshua Dysart & Duane Swierczynski, with art by Clayton Henry.

For decades, Toyo Harada's Harbinger Foundation and the government's own Project Rising Spirit have been waging a secret war over the rarest resource known to man – the unwieldy superhuman telekinetics known as harbingeres. Over the years, they've each collected a small army of these empowered children to inflict their agendas on the world. But now the reformed harbinger hunter known as Bloodshot needs to atone for his crimes – and he's going to start by releasing two dozen of the most volatile harbingeres from their PRS prison and into the world.

Bloodshot wants to lead them. Toyo Harada wants to control them. And, Peter Stanchek, a teenage renegade with immense powers of his own, wants to give them free rein. But the runaway children of PRS have their own ideas for the future...and, as the body count rises, the Valiant Universe will realize that power this immense cannot be contained. It must be exercised...

"*Harbinger Wars* #1 will mark a pivotal moment for the Valiant Universe as three of our heaviest hitters go guns-blazing into a conflict unlike any they've ever faced before," Valiant Executive Editor Warren Simons said. "Joshua and Duane have crafted a character-driven story that will make the Valiant Universe a very dangerous place for a hero in 2013."

The story begins in *Harbinger Wars* #1, the premiere issue of a four-part limited series; from there, it continues into *Bloodshot* #10 (by Duane

COMIC SHOP NEWSARAMA

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Swierczynski & Barry Kitson) and *Harbinger* #11 (by Joshua Dysart & Khari Evans), also slated for April release.

"The *Harbinger* and *Bloodshot* ongoing series will push full steam ahead, documenting the massive repercussions of the very first clash between Bloodshot and the Harbinger renegades," Chief Creative Officer Dinesh Shamdasani said. "We're designing each component to stand on its own, and we couldn't be prouder of the three creative teams that will be making *Harbinger Wars* a crossover unlike anything else on the stands."

Berger Says Farewell to Vertigo

It's hard to imagine Vertigo without Karen Berger at the helm, but readers will have to come to terms with the concept: Berger, has announced that she will be departing the imprint—and DC Entertainment—in March of 2013. Berger's tenure at DC goes back almost three decades, and she has helmed Vertigo since its launch almost twenty years ago.



"I've been incredibly proud to have provided a home where writers and artists could create progressive and provocative stories that broadened the scope of comics, attracting a new and diverse readership to graphic storytelling," Berger said. "I'd like to thank all the many immensely talented creators who have helped make Vertigo into

a daring and distinctive imprint and I'm grateful to everyone at DC Entertainment and the retail community for their support and commitment to Vertigo all these years. It's been quite an honor."

"We are extremely grateful for Karen's commitment and dedication to Vertigo, its books and its incredibly talented team of staff and creators," DC Entertainment President Diane Nelson said. "In Vertigo she leaves a legacy to which we remain committed and on which we intend to build for the future. She will always be a deeply valued and respected member of the DC family."

It is perhaps one of the ultimate compliments to Berger's success with Vertigo that many comic shops refer to the mature readers/sophisticated reading section of their stores as "the Vertigo section," regardless of publisher—and that one of the highest compliments paid to a sophisticated mature-readers comic is that "it reads like a Vertigo book." When you consider that creators such as Neil Gaiman, Grant Morrison, Peter Milligan, Garth Ennis, Brian K. Vaughan, and Scott Snyder rose to prominence through their Vertigo work, it's no wonder that the line is considered one of the most influential in comics history—thanks in large part to the guidance of Berger. She will most definitely be missed.

Coming Comics—DC in March

Andy Diggle & Tony S. Daniel make their creative debut in *Action Comics* #18 with a tale that takes readers inside the nefarious mind of Lex Luthor, who bares his scars—but how did he get them? And what is his plan to eradicate Superman?

When Catherine Wayne is kidnapped in Gotham City, Alan Wayne turns to Jonah Hex for help in *All-Star Western* #18 by Justin Gray, Jimmy Palmiotti, & Moritat. Faced with the machinations of Vandal Savage, can Hex and Mrs. Wayne make their escape?

The horrible tragedy of "Rotworld" weighs heavily on the Baker family in *Animal Man* #18 by Jeff Lemire & Steve Pugh. Nothing will be the same for Animal Man after this issue!

Aquaman #18 by Geoff Johns, Paul Pelletier, & Sean Parsons kicks off "Death of a King" as Aquaman embarks on a journey to the ends of the Earth to solve an ancient murder—one that will reveal a horrific truth about Arthur Curry and threaten those closest to him today.

Ray Fawkes kicks off a two-issue writing run with *Batgirl* #18 as Batgirl confronts the man who sold her out to the Joker during "Death of the Family"—her own brother, James! Can Barbara help him, or will this conflict be the final nail in her family's coffin?

Guest artist Andy Kubert joins Scott Snyder for *Batman* #18. In the wake of unspeakable tragedy, Batman is in danger of losing his humanity! And in the backup story, fan-favorite character Harper Row returns—but will she be able to pull Batman back from the brink?

Peter Tomasi, Patrick Gleason, & Mick Gray have something very big in store for *Batman and Robin* #18. We can't say what's in the works, but we can quote DC, who describes it as "the *Batman and Robin* story of the year."



The terrifying tale of the Mad Hatter's origin continues in *Batman: The Dark Knight* #18 by Gregg Hurwitz & Ethan Van Sciver. Batman is still two steps behind the Hatter's current reign of terror...will Catwoman's interference make it three?

Batman is on the run in Grant Morrison & Chris Burnham's *Batman Incorporated* #9. Is The Dark Knight a murderer?

Batwing's armor is destroyed in *Batwing* #18 by Fabian Nicieza & Fabrizio Fiorentino. Will the man behind the suit be enough to keep one of his only friends alive?

J.H. Williams III, W. Haden Blackman, & Trevor McCarthy kick off a new story arc in *Batwoman* #18 as Batwoman adjusts to her new partner and her new role in the war on crime. Batman also makes a guest appearance in this issue.

Skullkickers creator Jim Zub begins his run as writer with *Birds of Prey* #18. Mr. Freeze is out of Arkham Asylum and looking for revenge on the

SPIDER-MAN



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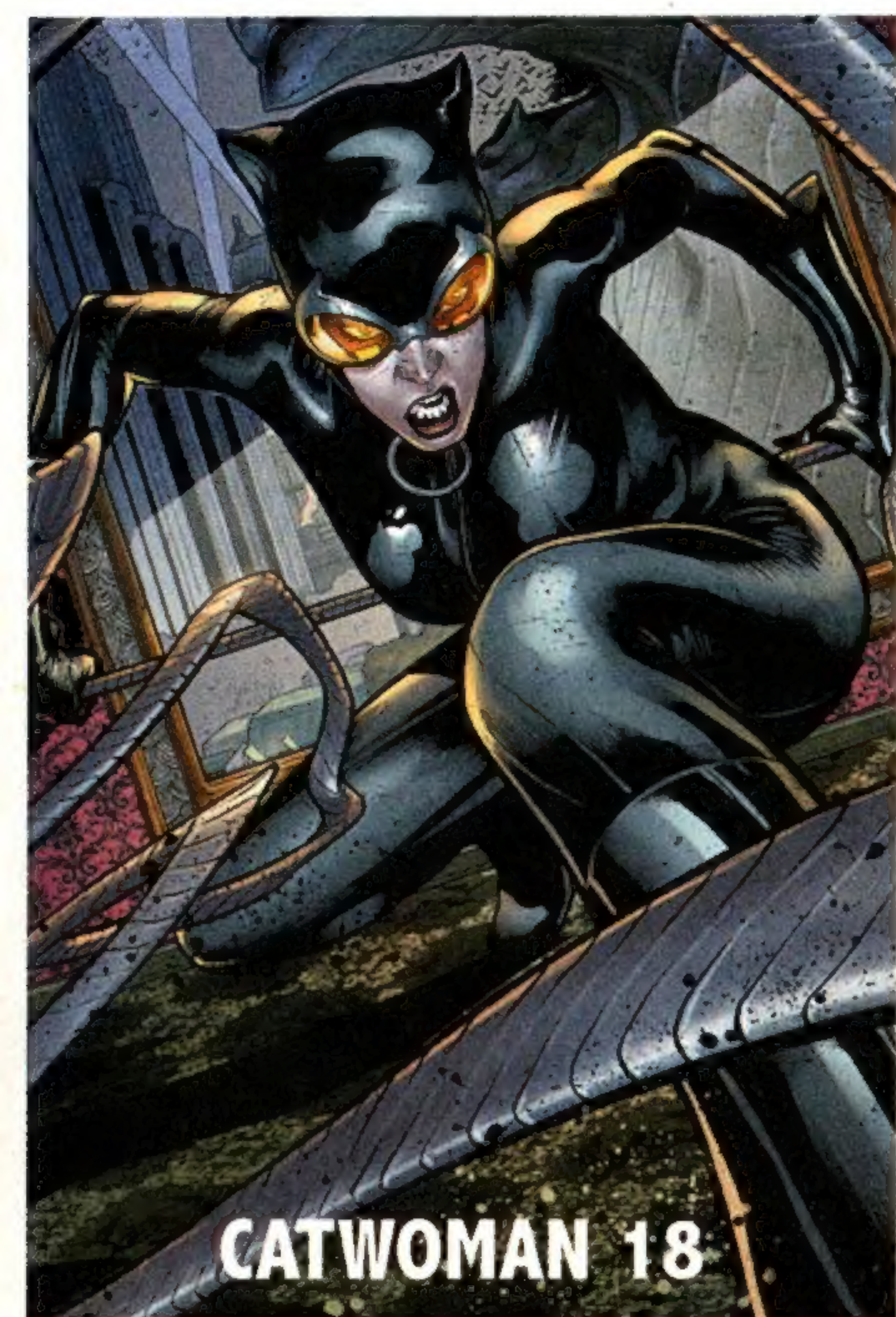
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Comic Shop News

Court of Owls! His first target? The newest member of the Birds team, Strix! And if that wasn't enough trouble for the girls, this issue introduces The Daughters of the Dawn who are abducting people with super powers...starting with a certain prisoner at Belle Reve!

In the fallout from "Death of the Family," Catwoman and Batman spend a night at the museum—fighting over stolen art—in *Catwoman* #18 by Ann Nocenti, Rafa Sandoval, & Jordi Tarragona.

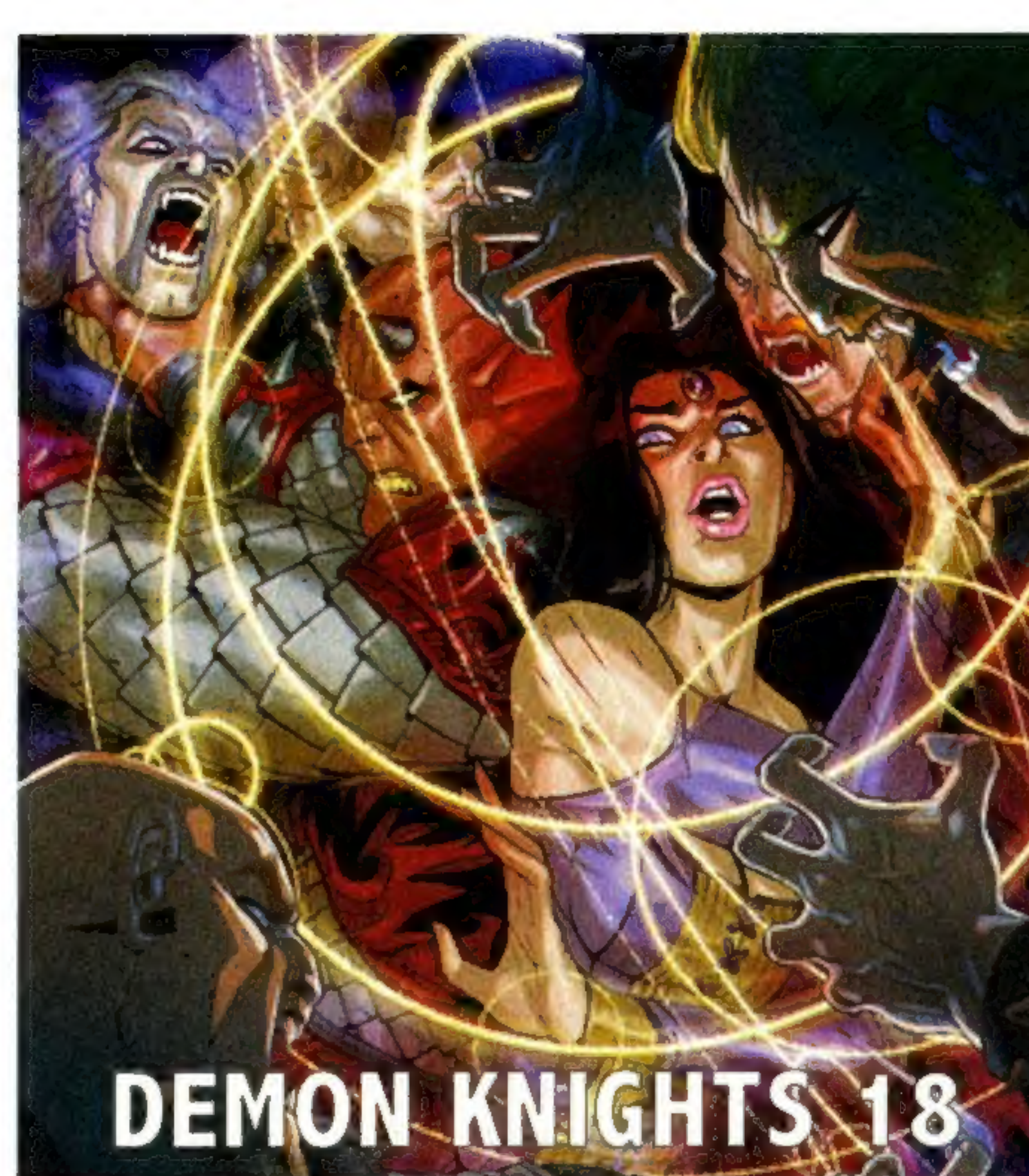


The star of *Justice League Dark* is unleashed in the ongoing series *Constantine* by Robert Venditti & Renato Guedes. Liar, cheater, manipulator... John Constantine is all of these... yet he uses these skills and more to protect the world from the darkest corners of the DC Universe. What Constantine learns in this first issue will shake the very foundations of the New 52... and only he knows how to deal with it!

Joe Keatinge & Tyler Kirkham turn the spotlight on Starfire in *DC Universe Presents* #18.

Finally! Deathstroke vs. The Teen Titans in *Deathstroke* #18 by Justin Jordan, Edgar Salazar, & Scott Hanna... and if that's not enough, the Ravagers join the fight!

After thirty years, the Demon Knights are slowly pulling themselves back together—but there's an army of vampires waiting to tear them apart in *Demon Knights* #18 by Robert Venditti & Bernard Chang.



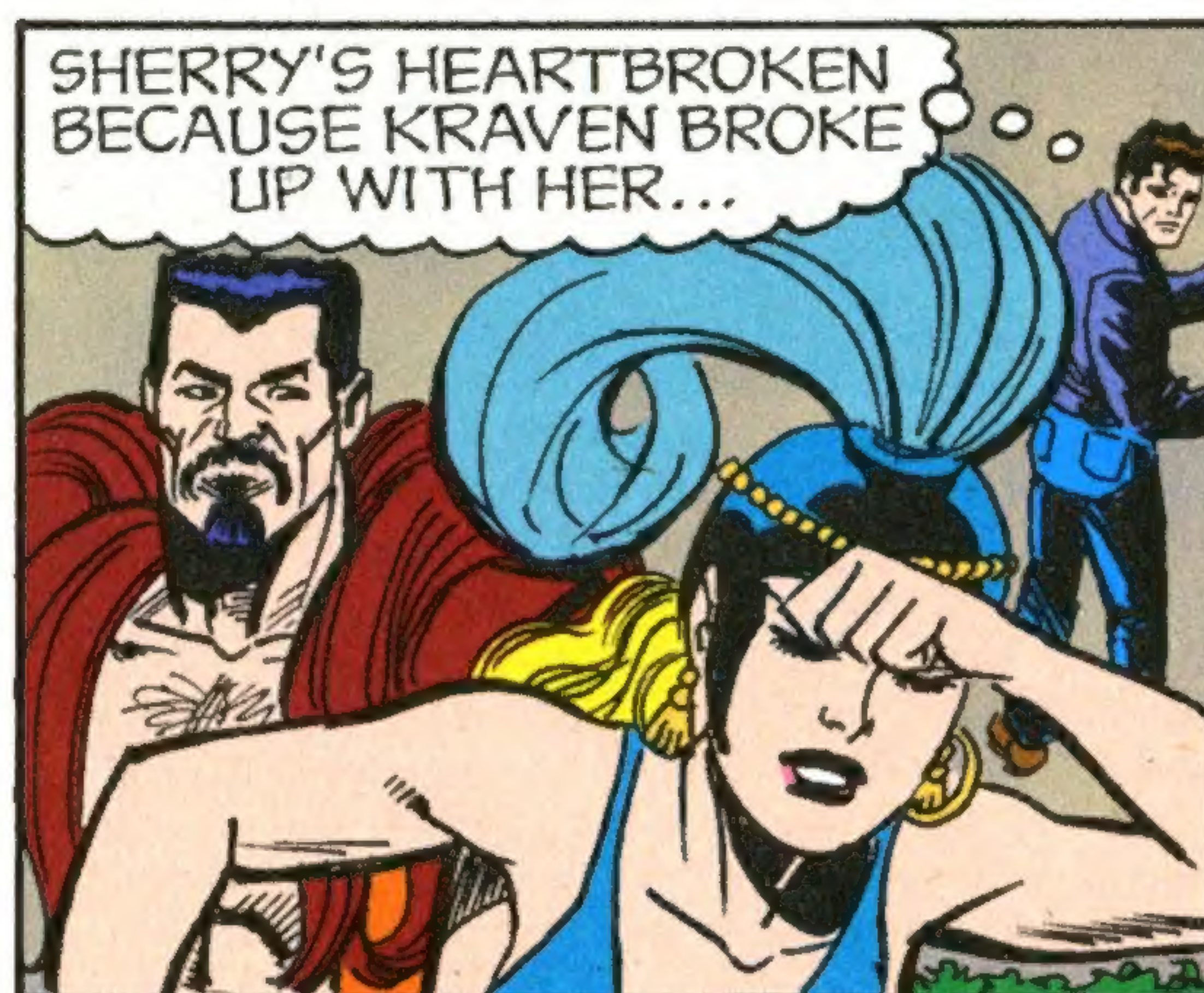
Batman confronts the Penguin in *Detective Comics* #18 by John Layman & Jason Fabok. The stakes are high—and even if Batman wins, he loses! Plus, in the backup feature, witness the origin of Ignatius Ogilvy, the new criminal kingpin of Gotham City.

China Mievell & Alberto Ponticelli's *Dial H* #10 marks a turning point in Roxy and Nelson's quest for knowledge and delves into the mysteries of the H Dials.

As Wotan holds The Flash's mother hostage, Khalid must finally come to terms with his destiny as Doctor Fate in *Earth 2* #10 by James Robinson, Nicola Scott, & Trevor Scott.

The Trickster is accused of murder in *The Flash* #18 by Brian Buccellato & Marcio Takara. Can The Flash help solve his case?

Meet the all-new Multiplex in *The Fury of Firestorm: The Nuclear Man* #18 by Dan Jurgens & Ray McCarthy. Now that Ronnie and Jason can

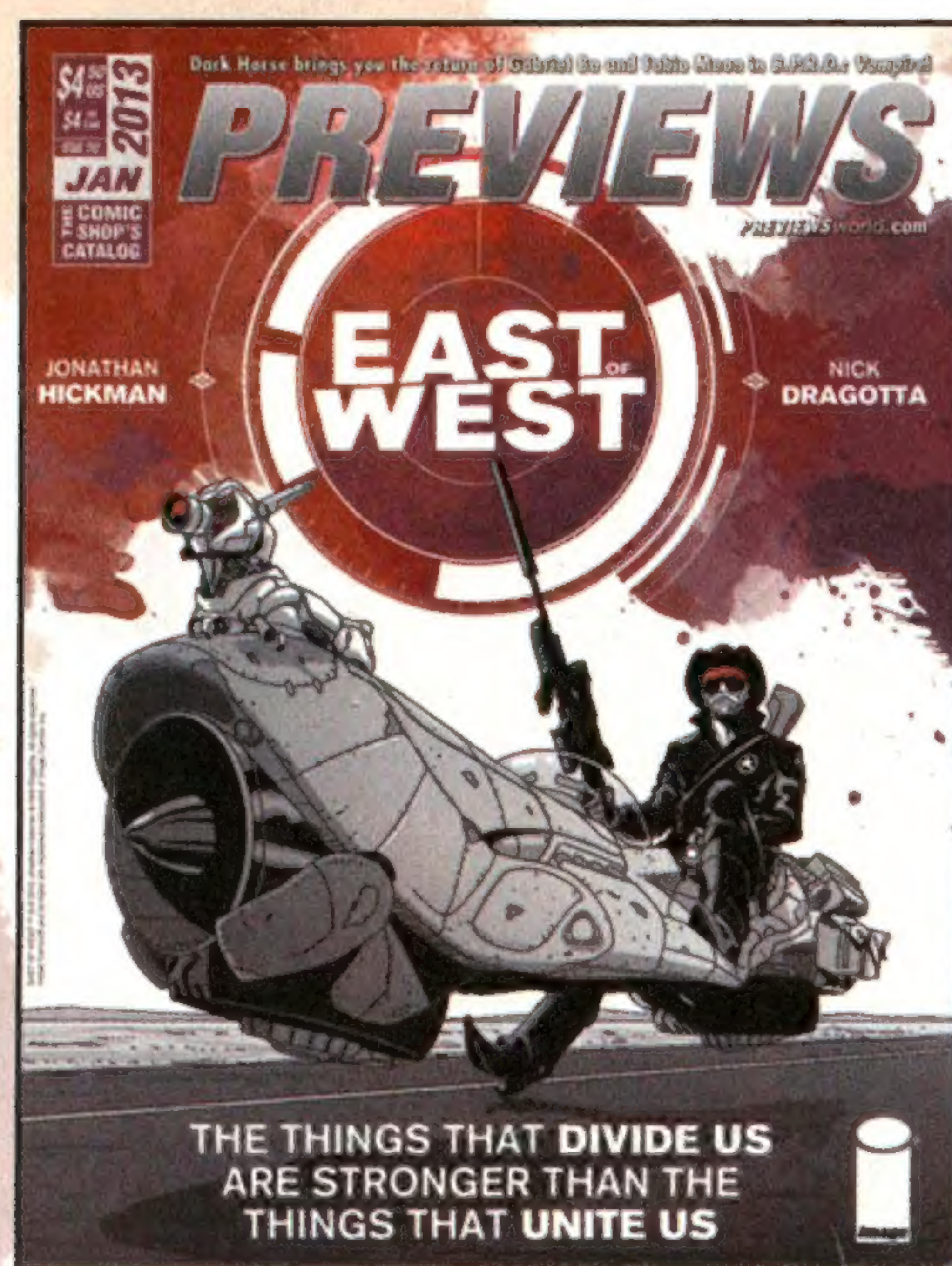


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COVER STORY



EAST OF WEST #1

Image Comics

Jonathan Hickman and Nick Dragotta, the award-winning team behind Marvel's *FF*, brings us *East of West*, a new sci-fi western wherein the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse are a dystopian America's last hope... and they're also trying to kill the President of the United States!

GREEN LANTERN #18: WRATH OF THE FIRST LANTERN

DC Comics

Geoff Johns and Doug Mahnke continue the epic, universe-shattering "Wrath of the First Lantern" storyline, as we learn the shocking fates of Hal Jordan and Sinestro, as the First Lantern continues his cosmic life experiments... at a great cost to the Corps!



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become one as Firestorm, can they defeat a villain who can create an army of himself?

Oliver Queen has lost everything: his company, his money, his friends and most of his arrows. And it's all because of one man: Komodo, who has come to tear Ollie's life to shreds! Find out how Ollie deals with that in *Green Arrow #18* by Jeff Lemire & Andrea Sorrentino.

Don't miss the shocking fates of Hal Jordan and Sinestro as "Wrath of the First Lantern" continues in *Green Lantern #18* by Geoff Johns, Doug Mahnke, & Christian Alamy.

After having ripped apart Guy Gardner, the First Lantern now directs his singular and horrific power at John Stewart in *Green Lantern Corps #18* by Peter Tomasi, Fernando Pasarin, & Scott Hanna, a "Wrath of the First Lantern" installment.

The First Lantern has already devastated Kyle Rayner. Now he sets his sights on Carol Ferris and the rest of the New Guardians in *Green Lantern: New Guardians #18* as "Wrath of the First Lantern" continues.

A major character dies in *I, Vampire #18* by Joshua Hale Fialkov & Scott Clark as the struggle for Andrew Bennet's soul comes to a conclusion! Find out what happens next after this huge change in the status quo of the series!



Cyborg takes center stage in *Justice League #18* by Geoff Johns, Ivan Reis, & Joe Prado as events fall into place for next month's massive new story arc, "Off the Grid." Meanwhile, Batman continues to be question the Superman/Wonder Woman alliance and Aquaman's future with the League.

The conclusion to the "Death of Magic" comes crashing down upon the team in *Justice League Dark #18* by Jeff Lemire, Ray Fawkes, & Mikel Janin as its consequences dramatically shift the status quo of the team moving forward!

The new Justice League of America team continues to form in Geoff Johns & David Finch's *Justice League of America #2*, but the question remains: What do these heroes want in return for their membership? Secret motives are everywhere, and the outcome will have a huge impact on this team and the rest of The New 52! This issue also kicks off the Manhunter's backup story arc.

Vibe's first public outing with the Justice League of America team sends him into conflict with one of his teammates in *Justice League of America's Vibe #2* by Andrew Kreisberg, Pete Woods, & Sean Parsons. Plus, Vibe learns the secret of his powers!

In Ann Nocenti & Alex Sanchez's *Katana #2*, Katana has joined the deadly Sword Clan in the hope that they'll lead her further down her path to vengeance! And Katana has been contacted by Steve Trevor—but what does the Justice League of America want with her?

The Legionnaires face off against the new Fatal Five in *Legion of Super-Heroes #18* by Paul Levitz, Keith Giffen, & Scott Koblish.

In the aftermath of "Death of the Family," Nightwing has almost no hope left until the chance for vengeance presents itself. Find out what decisions he will make in *Nightwing #18* by Kyle Higgins & Roger Bonet.

Phantom Stranger is sucked into a metaphysical poker game against the three sons of Trigon in *Phantom Stranger #6* by Dan DiDio, JM DeMatteis, Gene Ha, & Zander Cannon. The stakes of this game couldn't be any higher thanks to the host: Lady Luck, in her New 52 debut!

Someone claiming to be Terra's brother comes to the team in *Ravagers #10* by Michael Alan Nelson, Ig Guara, & Norm Rapmund. Unfortunately, Deathstroke the Terminator isn't far behind him!

Jason Todd suffered terribly at the hands of The Joker in "Death of the Family," which is why he's changing the Outlaws' mission in *Red Hood & The Outlaws #18* by Scott Lobdell & Timothy Green II.

In *Red Lanterns #18*, a "Wrath of the First Lantern" chapter by Peter Milligan & Miguel Sepulveda, the First Lantern turns his formidable gaze on Atrocitus and shows the high king of vengeance that everything he believed about himself, the universe and rage has been pitifully wrong. And that's just for starters.

Hawkman and the Shadow Thief find themselves trapped in the Shadow Realm in *The Savage Hawkman #18* by Tom DeFalco, Joe Bennett, & Art Thibert. Can Hawkman trust this all-new Shadow Thief and her mysterious powers?

The team battles one of their own for their very survival in *Stormwatch #18* by Peter Milligan & Will Conrad. And the relationship of Midnighter and Apollo hits a rough patch when the Amazon-like Zealot joins the team!

Basilisk faces off against the Suicide Squad in *Suicide Squad #18* by Adam Glass, Henrik Jonsson, & Sandu Florea.

The new H.I.V.E. makes its stunning first New 52 appearance in *Scott Lobdell & Kenneth Rocafort's Superman #18* by trying to take over Metropolis!

In the aftermath of "H'El on Earth," Superboy's about to land in a new city, with a new secret identity and a surprising new foe on his trail! Learn all about it in *Superboy #18* by Tom DeFalco, R.B. Silva, & Rob Lean.

Nothing will be the same for Supergirl as she embarks on a new post-"H'El on Earth" mission that brings her face to face with one of DC's deadliest villains in *Supergirl #18* by Mike Johnson & Mahmud Asrar.

Swamp Thing makes the ultimate sacrifice in an attempt save the world from the Rot in *Swamp Thing #18* by Scott Snyder & Yanick Paquette. This issue marks the end of life as Swamp Thing knows it!

Amaya becomes the Lady Regent of House Turquoise and discovers the startling truth behind its power in *Christy Marx & Aaron Lopresti's Sword of Sorcery #6*. And in the backup feature, Stalker must defeat Lucifer to save his scion!

Justin Jordan & Pascal Alixe present a tale from the recent past in *Team 7 #6* as Team 7 loses a team member while on a mission to rescue Caitlin Fairchild. Then, in the present day, Deathstroke hunts down his former Team 7 partners! But why?

Batman uncovers more clues about Calvin's mission in Gotham City...but will he stop The Talon or support him? Find out in *Talon #6* by Scott Snyder, James Tynion IV, & Guillem March, which reveals secrets about Sebastian Clark that could



endanger the lives of everyone Calvin cares about!

Former Green Lantern Jemiah Caul leads an assault on the powers behind the game—a very ill advised assault—in *Threshold #3* by Keith Giffen & Tom Raney. And if that's not enough, this story also introduces Captain K'Rot!

Red Robin's condition worsens in *Teen Titans #18* by Scott Lobdell, Eddy Barrows, & Eber Ferreira. And now he must face an even greater tragedy!

We've seen the history Wonder Woman shares with Ares—but what does the God of War have planned for her future? Find out in *Wonder Woman #18* by Brian Azzarello, Tony Akins, & Dan Green.

After being attacked by a group connected to the missing Mr. Terrific, Power Girl and Huntress take the fight to Holt Industries in *Worlds' Finest #10* by Paul Levitz & Kevin Maguire, where they make a shocking discovery!

The new, monthly *Ame-Comi Girls* ongoing series kicks off in March, and Wonder Woman, Power Girl, Supergirl, Batgirl, Robin, Steel, and the Flash are on hand for the first issue's fun as they take on Brainiac.

Oliver travels to China in pursuit of another target—but finds himself in an unexpected situation in *Arrow #5* by Marc Guggenheim, Andrew Kreisberg, Omar Francia, Sergio Sandoval, & Xermanico.

A new world order seizes the reins of power, forcing heroes to face each other in a fight to save humanity in *Injustice: Gods Among Us #3* by Tom Taylor & Jheremy Raapack. Which side will Wonder Woman choose?

The final issue of *Joe Kubert Presents* features the conclusions of "Angel and the Ape" and "USS Stevens," along with a deeply personal final work from Kubert himself.

Nigel's father hasn't been around in a while, but in 1940s London that's not unusual. Fortunately, his friend William can take up the slack, personally and as the Whistling Skull! But when they join The Skeleton, will working together be enough to save the day against Nazi scientific horrors? Find out in *JSA—Liberty Files: The Whistling Skull #4* by B. Clay Moore & Tony Harris.

Jeff Parker, Gabriel Hardman, Michael Avon Oeming, Rob Williams, & Juan Jose Ryp contribute a



trio of standalone Bat-tales in *Legends of the Dark Knight #6*.

In order to face Bart's demons, Superman and Impulse confront a reluctant ally: the JSA's Jay Garrick! And Lois's investigation into Lex takes a surprising turn in *Smallville Season 11 #11* by Bryan Q. Miller & Pere Perez.

DC collected editions (advance solicited for April and May release) include:

- *Absolute Blackest Night HC*, collecting *Blackest Night* #s 0-8, *Untold Tales of Blackest Night #1*, *DC Universe #0*, *Blackest Night Director's Cut #1*, and *Green Lantern* #s 43-48 & 50-52 in a deluxe oversized slipcased edition.
- *Aquaman Volume 2: The Others HC*, collecting *Aquaman* #s 7-13.
- *The Authority Volume 1 HC*, collecting *The Authority* #s 1-12.
- *Batman: Detective Comics Volume 1—Faces of Death TP*, collecting *Detective Comics* #s 1-7.
- *Batman Illustrated by Neal Adams Volume 2 TP*, collecting 236 pages of Neal Adams' Dark Knight adventures.
- *Batman Incorporated Volume 1: Demon Star HC*, collecting *Batman Incorporated* #s 0-6.
- *Batman Year One Hundred TP*, a new edition of the limited series collection by Paul Pope.
- *Batman Noir: Eduardo Risso Deluxe Edition HC*, collecting *Batman* #s 620-625, the Batman serial from *Wednesday Comics* #s 1-12, *Flashpoint: Batman—Knight of Vengeance* #s 1-3, and a story from *Batman: Gotham Knights* #8.
- *Birds of Prey Volume 2: Your Kiss Might Kill TP*, collecting *Birds of Prey* #s 8-13.
- *Dial H Volume 1: Into You TP*, collecting *Dial H* #s 0-6.
- *Blue Beetle Volume 2: Blue Diamond TP*, collecting *Blue Beetle* #s 0 & 7-16 and *Green Lantern: New Guardians* #9.
- *DC Universe Secret Origins TP*, collecting *Secret Origins* #1, *More Secret Origins* #1, *Even More Secret Origins* #1, and *Weird Secret Origins* #1.
- *The Flash Chronicles Volume 4 TP*, collecting *The Flash* #s 119-124.



- **Frankenstein: Agent of SHADE Volume 2: Secrets of the Dead TP**, collecting *Frankenstein: Agent of SHADE* #s 0 & 8-16 and *Men of War* #8.
- **Legion Worlds TP**, collecting *Legion Worlds* #s 1-6.
- **The New Teen Titans Omnibus Volume 3 HC**, collecting *Tales of the Teen Titans* #s 45-61 & 66-67, *New Teen Titans* #38, *New Teen Titans* #s 1-6, and *Secret Origins Annual* #3.
- **Showcase Presents Strange Adventures Volume 2 TP**, collecting classic SF tales from *Strange Adventures* #s 74-93.
- **Smallville Season 11 Volume 1: The Guardian TP**, collecting *Smallville Season 11* #s 1-4.
- **Superman: Action Comics Volume 2—Bulletproof HC**, collecting *Action Comics* #s 9-12 & *Annual* #1.
- **Superman Beyond: Man of Tomorrow TP**, collecting *Superman Beyond* #0, *Superman/Batman Annual* #1, and stories from *Batman Beyond Unlimited* #s 1-10.
- **Superman: Secret Identity TP**, a new edition of the riveting tale by Kurt Busiek & Stuart Immonen.
- **Swamp Thing Volume 2: Family Tree TP**, collecting *Swamp Thing* #s 8-11, 0, & *Annual* #1.
- **Tales of Batman: Archie Goodwin HC**, collecting 480 pages of Archie Goodwin-written tales illustrated by Walter Simonson, Alex Toth, Gene Ha, and others.
- **Tiny Titans: Aw Yeah Titans TP**, collecting *Tiny Titans* #s 45-50.
- **Totally Useless Mad TP**, another anthology of wacky whimsy from the pages of *Mad*.
- **Worlds' Finest Volume 1: Lost Daughters of Earth TP**, collecting *Worlds' Finest* #s 0-5.

Coming Comics—Vertigo/DC in March

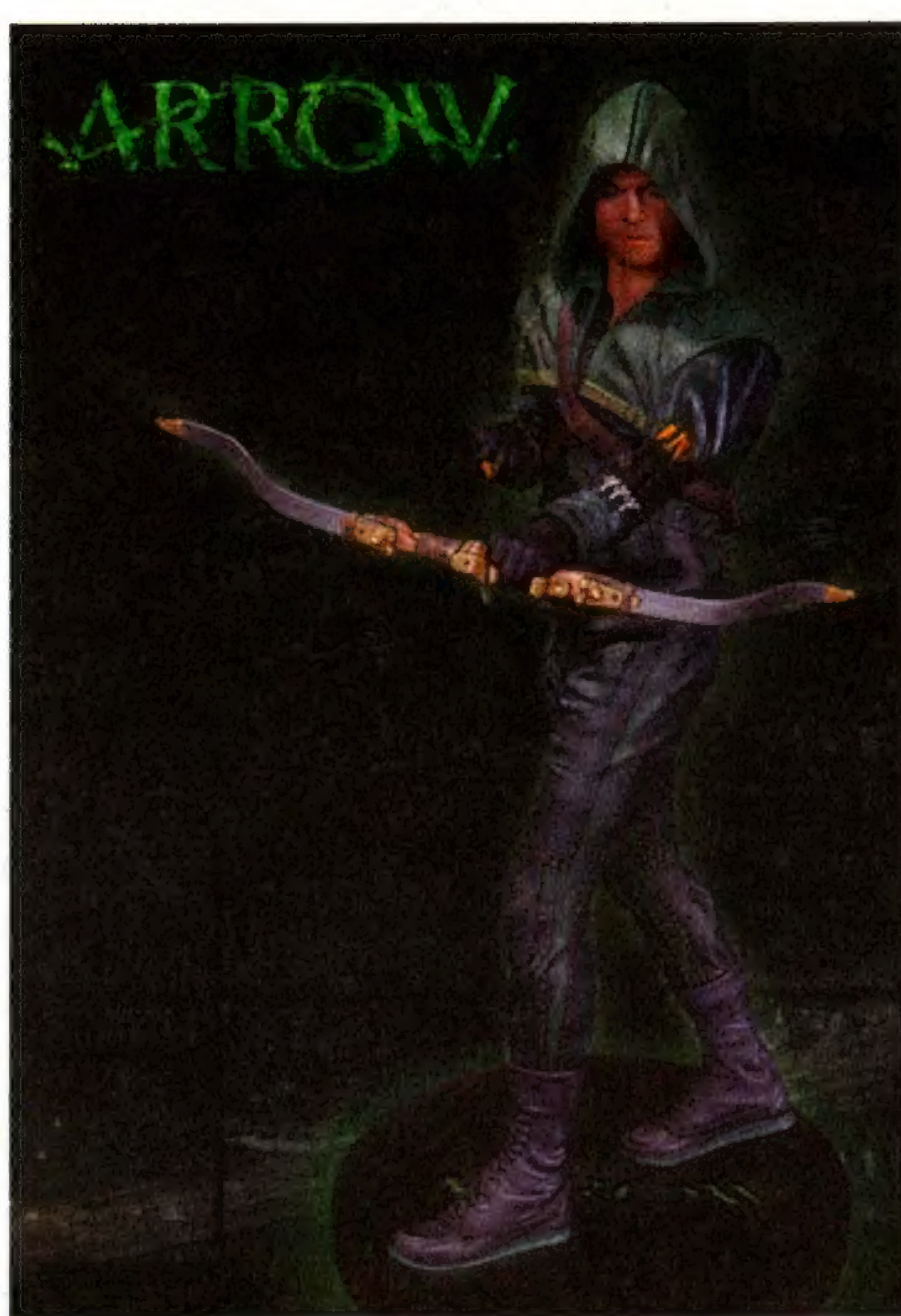
Denise Mina, Leonardo Manco, & Andrea Mutti's adaptation of Stieg Larsson's best-selling novel continues in *Stieg Larsson's The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo Book 2* (advance solicited for May release). In Book 2, the mystery of Harriet Vanger's disappearance deepens as crusading journalist Mikael Blomkvist and the indomitable Lisbeth Salander join forces to crack the decades-old case. Together they uncover a twisted secret that may end up costing them their lives.



Dan Abnett, Matt Kindt, Damon Lindelof, Peter Milligan, Toby Litt, Ray Fawkes, Simon Spurrier, Tom King, Gail Simone, Mark Buckingham, Jeff Lemire, MK Perker, Victor Santos, Jorge Corona, Rafael Albuquerque, Tom Fowler, & INJ Culbard are among the talented creators who contribute original tales to the SF-themed *Time Warp* #1.

Vertigo collected editions (advance solicited for April and May release) include:

- **Hellblazer Volume 5: Dangerous Habits TP**, a new edition collecting *Hellblazer* #s 34-46, including several tales never before collected.
- **Punk Rock Jesus TP**, collecting the eight-part series by Sean Murphy.



Coming in April 2013 from DC Collectibles

Gentle Giant does the sculpting honors for the *Oliver Queen Statue*, a stunningly lifelike sculpt of Queen as portrayed by actor Stephen Amell on the CW's hit show *Arrow*.

With his iconic cape billowing in the wind after making a speedy descent, this intimidating Man of Steel statue is ready to fight for truth and justice in the *Superman: The Man of Steel—Superman by Lee Bermejo Statue*, sculpted by Jean St. Jean.

Straight from the highly anticipated new game *Injustice: Gods Among Us*, DC Collectibles presents the *Deathstroke Vs. Green Arrow Action Figure Two-Pack* depicting the two masters of precision fighting.

Dave Cortes does the sculpting honors for the *Batman: Arkham City—The Joker Statue*. Looking as mischievous as ever, the Joker is up to his old tricks again—but with an all-new look and minimalist color scheme!

The newest Green Lantern zooms into action in the *Green Lantern Simon Baz Action Figure*.

Coming Comics—Marvel in March

For years the heroes of the Marvel Universe have lived in fear that the artificial intelligence known as Ultron would one day evolve to fulfill its desire to wipe out all organic life and take over the Earth -- and that day arrives in *Age of Ultron* #1, the kickoff of a massive ten-part event by Brian Bendis & Bryan Hitch. Marvel has slated the first three issues for March release to kick the event saga off in a big way.

Will the rise of the artificial intelligence Ultron cause the premature end of the Fantastic Four's sojourn across time and space? Find out in *Fantastic Four* #5AU, an "Age of Ultron" tie-in.

Spider-Man enters the Age of Ultron in *Superior Spider-Man* #6AU by Christos Gage & Dexter Soy.

The Avengers guest-star in Brian Bendis & Dave Marquez's *All-New X-Men* #s 8. How will the Earth's Mightiest Heroes react to the time-swept X-Men? Then, in #9, Stuart Immonen returns to the series just in time to introduce the original X-Men's new costumes.

Kieron Gillen's worlds collide as Loki and Mr. Sinister team up in *A+X* #6. You didn't think the heroes would have all the fun, did you?

The New Adam is transformed, and his true self revealed, in *Avengers* #7 by Jonathan Hickman & Dustin Weaver.

Black Widow and Hawkeye stand in judgment for the sins of their pasts in *Avengers Assemble* #13 by Kelly Sue DeConnick & Pete Woods... and Spider-Woman is caught in the middle!

The Superior Spider-Man faces off with Thor, God of Thunder, in *Avenging Spider-Man* #18. And if that's not reason enough to check out this tale by Christopher Yost & Marco Checchetto, it also features the return of Electro!

Cable must face his daughter

Hope, the savior of *AvX*, in *Cable & X-Force* #5 by Dennis Hopeless & Salvador Larroca. And if that's not enough of a challenge, the Uncanny Avengers are hot on their trail!

Zola's terrible experiments on the indigenous creatures give birth to a terrible new foe in *Rick Remender & John Romita Jr.'s Captain America* #5. Meanwhile, in the pre-war-years flashback sequence, young Steve Rogers must help his family to survive their worst year of the Great Depression—but how far will he go?

Deadpool does awful things to the work of Charles Dickens and Jonathan Swift in *Deadpool*



Killustrated #3 by Cullen Bunn & Matteo Lolli.

The team travels back to ancient Rome to dine with Caesar on the Ides of March in *Fantastic Four* #5 by Matt Fraction & Mark Bagley.

Matt Fraction & Michael Allred spotlight the mystery that is Medusa in *FF* #5.

Dani Moonstar joins the Defenders in Cullen Bunn & William Sliney's *Fearless Defenders* #2 as Valkyrie and Misty prepare to take on the Doom Maidens.



There's a new rule in the galaxy: No one touches Earth! No one!! Why has Earth become the most important planet in the Galaxy? That's what the Guardians of the Galaxy are going to find out beginning in *Guardians of the Galaxy* #1 by Brian Bendis & Steve McNiven. Join the brightest stars in the Marvel universe—Star Lord, Gamora, Drax, Rocket Raccoon, Groot, and Iron-Man—as they embark on a cosmic odyssey.

The Hulk takes on Attuma in *Indestructible Hulk* #5 by Mark Waid & Leinil Francis Yu.

The Shi'Ar—a race of aliens related to the Shi'ar—accuse Tony Stark of killing their god in *Iron Man* #7 by Kieron Gillen & Greg Land. And that goes was none other than the Phoenix!

Marvel presents an all-new story in *Monsters, Inc.: The Perfect Date* #1. Mike forgets a special date he promised his girlfriend, Celia, and she's furious with him. Can Mike get his relationship off the rocks with a little help from his pal Sulley?

In *New Avengers* 36 by Jonathan Hickman & Steve Epting, the Illuminati learn that Earth is the center point for the death of the Universe. If this is true, doesn't that mean destroying it might save everything else? And what does Galactus have to do with all of this?

Sam Alexander isn't just any 15-year old—instead, he's a 15-year-old who has just been recruited to the Nova Corps: the Universe's police force! Witness his cosmic transition in *Nova* #2 by Jeph Loeb & Ed McGuinness.

Shanna and Wolverine are separated, and Shanna teams up with Amadeus Cho in *Frank Cho's Savage Wolverine* #3. And, in this issue, a hero will fall!

How many have to die before the Superior Spider-Man will kill a super villain? Find out in Dan Slott & Giuseppe Camuncoli's *Superior Spider-Man* #5 as the new Spidey takes on Massacre—with hundreds of lives in the balance. Then the new super-villain duo Jester and Screwball make an appearance in *Superior Spider-Man* #6, which features art by Humberto Ramos.

In *Thor, God of Thunder* #6, Jason Aaron & Butch Guice present an interlude tale that reveals the dark origin of Gorr... and...and the truth behind his bloody quest to butcher the gods.

The team reaches the bloody end of their first mission in *Daniel Way & Steve Dillon's Thunderbolts* #6—and the final deadly team member is revealed!

As his father lies in critical condition, Miles struggles to solve the mystery of the new Venom

in Brian Bendis & Sara Pichelli's *Ultimate Comics Spider-Man* #21. And to do so, Miles turns to the one person who can help him... Gwen Stacy!

The West Coast Ultimates makes their debut in *Ultimate Comics Ultimates* #22 by Sam Humphries & Joe Bennett. Don't mistake them for allies, though: the West Coast Ultimates attack the US in *Ultimate Comics Ultimates* #23!

Jimmy Hudson's quest to discover the answers about his past begins in *Ultimate Comics Wolverine* #1, the kickoff issue of a four-parter by Cullen Bunn & Ramon Rosanas. What mission was Wolverine on that led to the birth of Jimmy?

Kitty makes a choice that could haunt her forever in *Ultimate Comics X-Men* #24 by Brian Wood & Mahmud Asrar.

Daniel Acuña joins Rick Remender on as regular artist for *Uncanny Avengers* beginning with the sixth issue, just in time for Thor vs Apocalypse in the 11th Century! The Avengers' ancestors are being hunted and only a young Thor can save his future companions! And with Rama Tut and Kang pulling the strings, you know nothing good can come from any of it.

Bishop takes on the team in *Uncanny X-Force* #3 by Sam Humphries & Ron Garney. And Bishop has amazing new powers that help him take down X-Force.

Everything has changed for Magneto in the last few weeks. Can he prove he is still the Master of Magnetism? Find out in *Uncanny X-Men* #3 by Brian Bendis & Chris Bachalo.

But where did those powers come from?

When Wolverine finds himself the bargaining chip in a hostage situation, he must make a decision to save a little boy that will follow him forever...literally! How can a berserker fight what he can't see? And how far will he go to assert his humanity in the face of the unknown? Paul Cornell & Alan Davis answer those questions in *Wolverine* #1.



Peter David & Leonard Kirk continue "Hell on Earth War" in *X-Factor* #253 as X-Factor struggles to stop the Lords of Hell from tearing the Earth apart in their battle for dominance! And as X-



Factor is caught in the crossfire, a member of the team falls into Hell's clutches...

After refusing Wolverine's offer to join the X-Men, David Haller must now decide exactly how he will carry out his father's legacy in *X-Men Legacy* #7 by Simon Spurrier & Tan Eng Huat.

David Lapham & Roberto De La Torre present a Prologue to *X-Termination* in *Age of Apocalypse* #15 as the Uncanny X-Force must deal with Nightcrawler's betrayal.

Then the *X-Termination* event launches in full force in *X-Termination* #1 by David Lapham, Marjorie Liu, Greg Pak, & David Lopez, a crossover saga that involves the teams from *Astonishing X-Men*, *Age of Apocalypse*, & *X-Treme X-Men*... AoA Nightcrawler just wants to get home... and he doesn't care if he takes out our world to get there. The result? Wolverine versus Nightcrawler!

With Nightcrawler wreaking havoc on the very fabric of reality, Wolverine calls in his street team in *Astonishing X-Men* #60 by Marjorie Liu & Matteo Buffagni, the second part of the *X-Termination* event. Confronted with the doppel-ganger of their dead friend, will the team be able to do what's necessary to stop him?

With reality pulling apart and their Xavier driven mad, the team scrambles to find the tear between dimensions and repair it before it's too late. But without their Xavier, they're unprepared for the threat that awaits them in *X-Treme X-Men* #12 by Greg Pak & Andre Arujo.

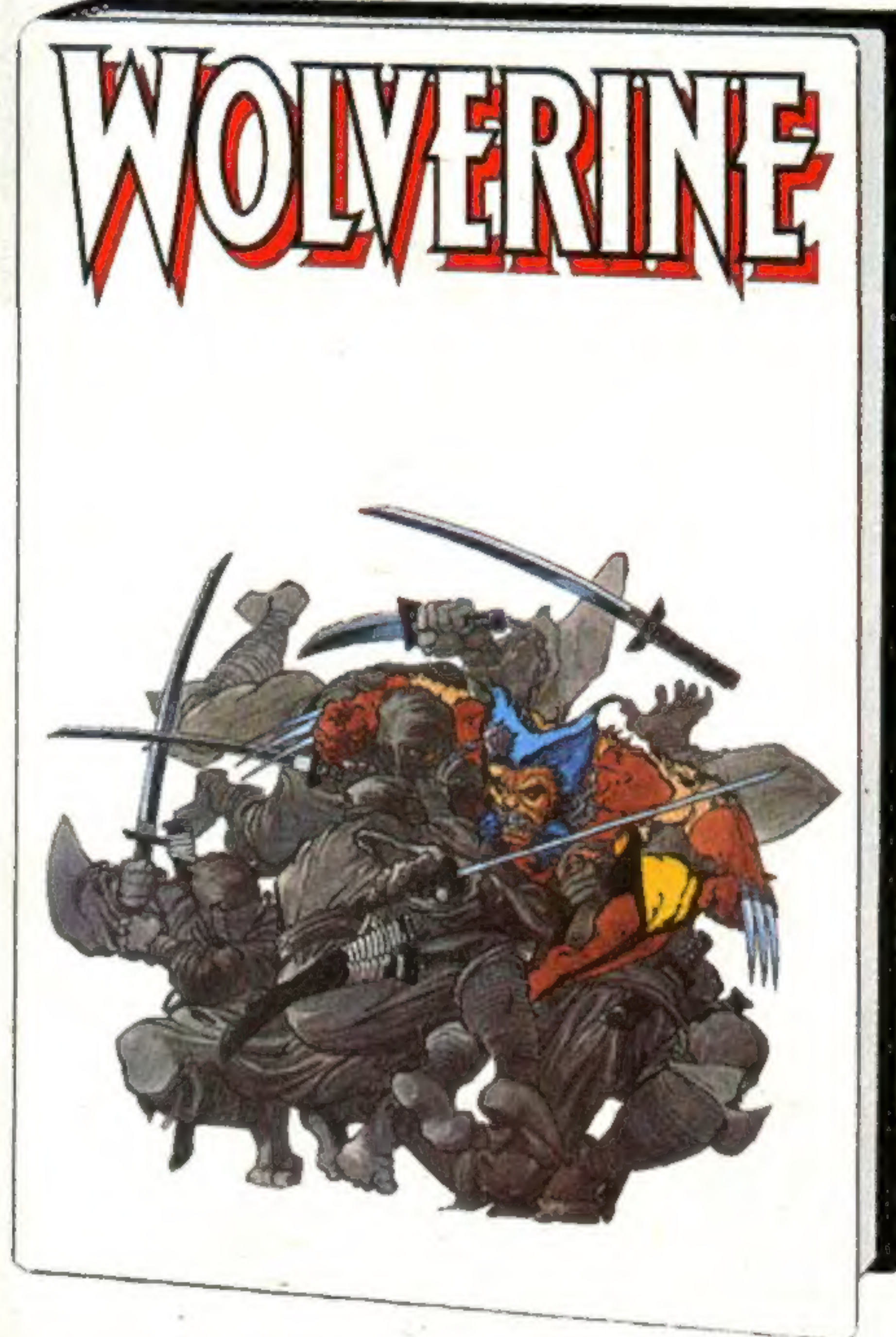
Marvel collected editions (advance solicited for April and May release) include:

- *Age of Apocalypse Volume 2: Weapon Omega* TP, collecting *Age of Apocalypse* #s 6-12.
- *Astonishing X-Men Volume 11: Weaponized* TP, collecting *Astonishing X-Men* #s 52-56 & Annual #1.
- *Avengers Volume 1: Avengers World Premiere* HC, collecting *Avengers* #s 1-6.
- *Avengers Vs. X-Men* TP, collecting *Avengers Vs. X-Men* #s 0-12 and material from *Point One* #1.
- *Avengers Vs. X-Men: Vs* TP, collecting *Avengers*

- *Vs. X-Men* #s 1-6 and *A-Babies Vs. X-Babies* #1.
- *Avengers Vs. X-Men: X-Men Legacy* TP, collecting *X-Men Legacy* #s 266-275.
- *Captain America* by Ed Brubaker Volume 3 TP, collecting *Captain America* #s 11-14 and more.
- *Counter X: X-Man—Fearful Symmetry* TP, collecting *X-Man* #s 71-75 and more.
- *Doom 2099: The Complete Collection* by Warren Ellis TP, collecting *Doom 2099* #s 24-39 and more.
- *Essential Iron Man Volume 5* TP, collecting *Iron Man* #s 62-75, 77-87, & Annual #3.
- *Fantastic Four Volume 1: New Departure, New Arrivals* TP, collecting *Fantastic Four* #s 1-3, *FF* #s 1-2, and material from *Marvel Now! Point One* #1.
- *Iron Man Volume 1: Believe* Premiere HC, collecting *Iron Man* #s 1-5.
- *Iron Man 2020* TP, collecting the Arno Stark saga from *Machine Man* #s 1-4, *Iron Man 2020* #1-6, and much more.
- *Iron Man: Extremis* TP, a new edition collecting the Warren Ellis-Adi Granov Extremis saga.
- *Kick Ass 2* TP, collecting the miniseries by Mark Millar & John Romita Jr.
- *Marvel Masterworks: The Avengers Volume 13* HC, collecting *Avengers* #s 120-128, *Giant-Size Avengers* #1, and more.
- *Marvel Masterworks: Golden Age Human Torch* Volume 1 TP, collecting *Human Torch* #s 2-5A.
- *Marvel's Iron Man 3 Prelude* TP, collecting the two-part Prelude storyline and the two-part adaptation of *Iron Man 2*.
- *Marvel Now! Omnibus* HC, a 688-page hardcover collecting the first Marvel Now! issues of *Uncanny Avengers*, *A+X*, *Deadpool*, *Iron Man*, *Thor*, *X-Men Legacy*, *Captain America*, *Indestructible Hulk*, *Fantastic Four*, *FF*, *All-New X-Men*, *Avengers*, *Thunderbolts*, *Avengers Arena*, *Cable & X-Force*, *New Avengers*, *Superior Spider-Man*, *Savage Wolverine*, *Young Avengers*, *Uncanny X-Men*, *Secret Avengers*, *Nova*, *Guardians of the Galaxy*, *Red She-Hulk*, *Fearless Defenders*, *Journey Into Mystery*, *Morbius*, *Uncanny X-Force*, *Wolverine*, *Avengers Assemble*, and more.



- **Marvel Universe Iron Man Digest**, a 104-page collection of all-ages Iron Man tales.
- **Marvel Universe Vs. the Avengers TP**, collecting the four-part miniseries.
- **Oz: Road to Oz HC**, collecting the six-issue miniseries.
- **Punisher: Nightmare TP**, collecting the five-part miniseries.
- **Red She-Hulk: Hell Hath No Fury TP**, collecting *Red She-Hulk* #s 58-62.
- **Rocket Raccoon & Groot: The Complete Collection TP**, collecting *Incredible Hulk* # 271, *Rocket Raccoon* #s 1-4, and much more.
- **Supercrooks TP**, collecting the miniseries by Mark Millar, Nacho Vigalondo, & Leinil Francis Yu.
- **Uncanny Avengers Volume 1: The Red Shadow Premiere HC**, collecting *Uncanny Avengers* #s 1-5.
- **Uncanny X-Force Volume 6: Final Execution Book 1 TP**, collecting *Uncanny X-Force* #s 25-29.
- **Uncanny X-Men: The Complete Collection by Matt Fraction Volume 2 TP**, collecting *Uncanny X-Men* #s 512-519, *Dark Avengers/Uncanny X-Men: Utopia & Exodus*, *Dark Avengers* #s 7-8, and more.
- **Venom: Devil's Pack TP**, collecting *Venom* #s 23-25 & 28-30.
- **Wolverine: The Adamantium Collection HC**, a massive 11.5" x 15.5" slipcased hardcover (that's original art size!) featuring some of the best Wolverine tales from the character's storied history, including *Origin* #s 1-6, *Uncanny X-Men* #s 162, 205, & 268, *Wolverine* #s 1-4 by Chris Claremont & Frank Miller, *Wolverine* #75 & 119-122, *Wolverine & The X-Men* #s 1-3, and much more in a single 720-page boat-anchor of a hardcover!



- **Wolverine by Claremont & Miller HC**, collecting *Wolverine* #s 1-4 from 1982, along with *Uncanny X-Men* #s 172-173.
- **Wolverine: Covenant TP**, collecting *Wolverine* #s 314-317.
- **Wolverine: Origin HC**, a new edition of the origin tale by Paul Jenkins & Andy Kubert.
- **Wolverine: Sabretooth HC**, collecting *Wolverine* #s 50-55 & 310-313.
- **X-Men Legacy Volume 1: Prodigal TP**, collecting *X-Men Legacy* #s 1-6.
- **X-Men: Reckless Abandonment TP**, collecting *X-Men* #s 36-41.

Coming Comics—Dynamite in March

When a clandestine Chinese spacecraft crash lands north of Alaska, it's a race against time between China and the United States—each anxious to salvage valuable high-tech secrets—to hunt down an errant rover built to survive the greenhouse hell of the Venusian atmosphere! OSI Agent Steve Austin tests the limits of his bionics as he hunts down a clandestine crash-landed Chinese Venusian rover determined to complete its mission, no matter what or where, in *The Bionic Man Annual* #1 by Scott Beatty & Dietrich Smith.

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The Bionic gloves come off as Steve Austin and Jamie Sommers throw down in *The Bionic Man Vs. The Bionic Woman* #3 by Keith Champagne & Jose Luis.

The heroes take a further step down a very dangerous road and lay out their battle plan in *Garth Ennis' Red Team* #2. But not everyone is happy with the unit's new direction—especially some of the other players in the game...

In Mark Waid's *The Green Hornet* #1, The Hornet faces his most dangerous enemy ever—an egotistical, arrogant Britt Reid! In his alter-ego as a powerful newspaper publisher, the Hornet has lost control, becoming a social crusader far too sure of himself and of his judgment. But when he finally goes too far, an innocent man pays a terrible price—and the legend of the Green Hornet begins its cataclysmic collapse!

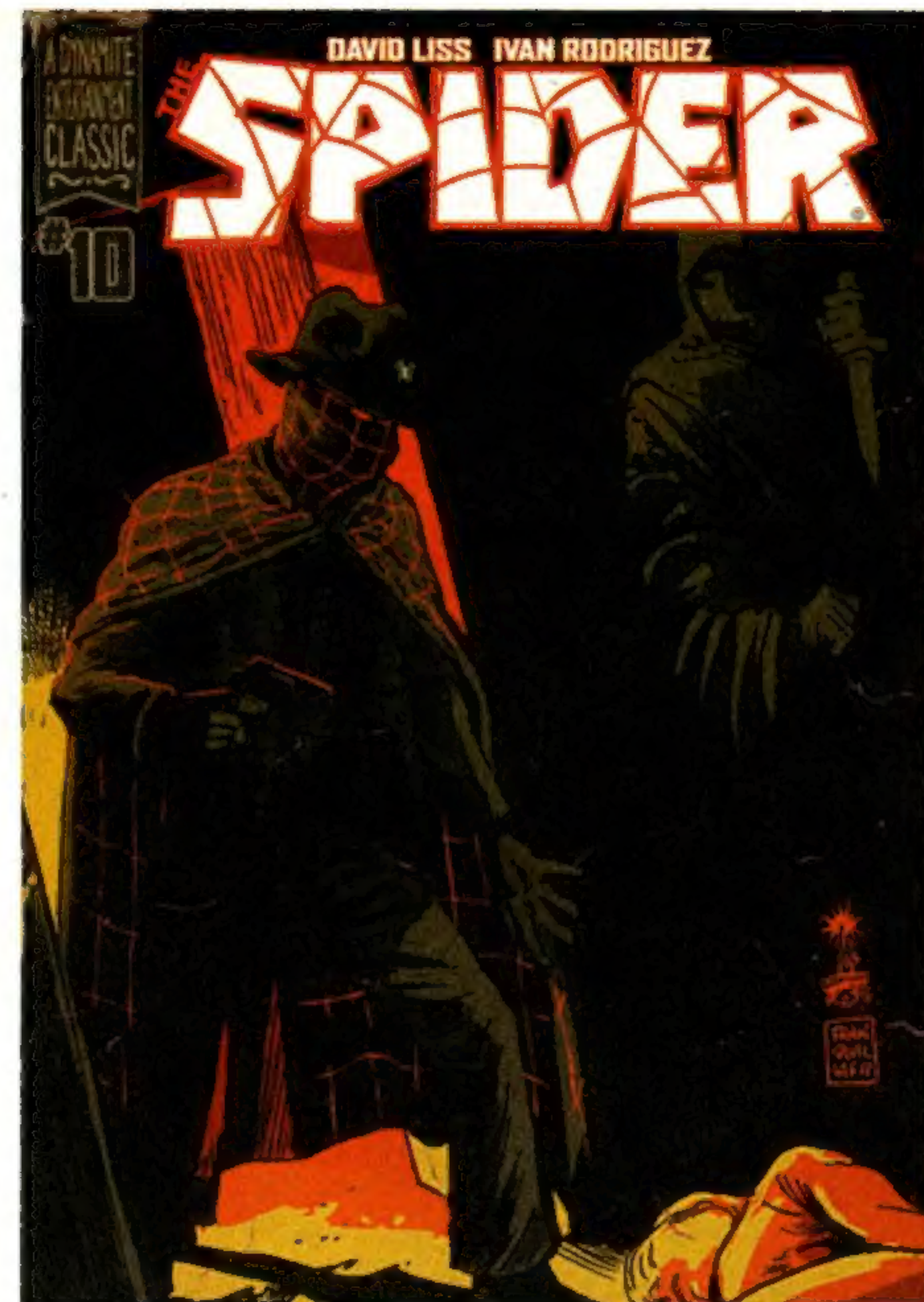
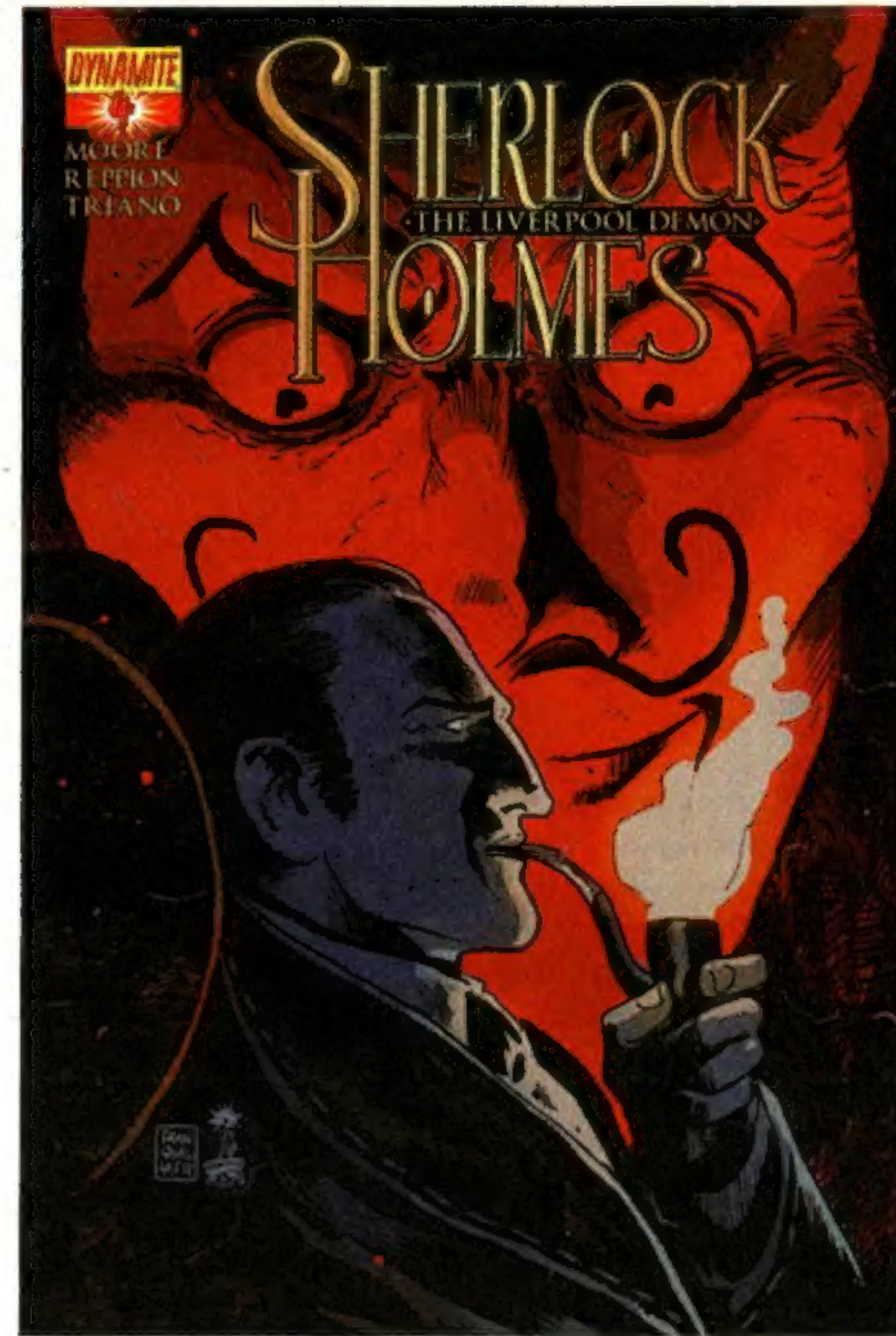
The Justice Party tightens its grip on the Empire State, and the vigilantes and heroes are preparing to go on the offensive in *Masks* #5 by Chris Roberson & Dennis Calero. The Shadow, Miss Fury, Green Hornet, Black Bat and the others have

gathered enough evidence to prove that the public officials who have established the new fascist police state are merely the pawns of more sinister forces who lurk unseen.

When robbers use deadly tactics to commit a series of bank holdups, The Shadow scours the underbelly of Manhattan to find the culprits in *The Shadow* #12 by Victor Gischler & Aaron Campbell.

The Shadow saves Margo Lane for the first time as two thugs try to throw her off the roof of the Cobalt Club in *The Shadow: Year One* #2 by Matt Wagner & Wilfredo Torres. "Big Gun" Massaretti begins a gangland war under the mesmerizing control of a mysterious presence. And, The Shadow sets up the initial version of his hidden Sanctum.

Drummond, now on the run, seeks shelter in Hitchcock's Menagerie, but how long will it be before Inspector Thornton tracks him down? The final piece of the puzzle falls into place for Holmes as he and Watson return to the scene of Tom Christian's murder in *Sherlock Holmes: The Liverpool Demon* #4 by Leah Moore, John Reppion, & Matt Triano.



In *The Spider* #10 by David Liss & Ivan Rodriguez, the Spider's great pulp-era enemy, The Fly, is reborn in the modern era.

In *Vampirella: NuBlood* by Mark Rahner & Cezar Razeq, Vampirella visits a sultry, trashy Southern town where the vampires are out of the closet and a synthetic blood substitute is getting a test-run. It could spell the end of the vampirism's murder and misery for good, and a chance for Vampi and Criswell to settle down. If nothing goes horribly wrong...

Dynamite collected editions include:

- **Army of Darkness Volume 1: Hail to the Queen, Baby! TP**, collecting *Army of Darkness* #s 1-6.
- **Jennifer Blood Volume 3: Neither Tarnished Nor Afraid TP**, collecting *Jennifer Blood* #s 13-18.
- **Merciless: The Rise of Ming TP**, collecting the miniseries that explores the formative years of Prince Ming.
- **Pantha Volume 1: The Goddess & the Dangerous Game TP**, collecting *Pantha* #s 1-6.
- **The Lone Ranger: Snake of Iron TP**, collecting the Chuck Dixon miniseries.
- **Witchblade: Red Sonja**, collecting the crossover miniseries.



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(SCALPED)

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